

Once again the CFO SOBS (Chicago's Finest Operators and Several Other Barnyard Slobs) bring you the latest edition of KEY CLUCKS. Acknowledgements are given throughout the newsletter where appropriate, but appreciation should especially go to the following Chicago crew: WS9D, K9AMC, N9EJS, WC9R, and KB9XE. We have simplified the layout a bit for easier assembly (that means it's not quite as fancy as the last one 'cuz we're all busy fellas). We couldn't get any suitable XYLS to pose for the centerfold, so we just stuck a rooster in there. (Sorry about that.)

First, a few details. Bob (WB9LTN) is still handling the rooster and nest egg.. Send address changes, new member applications, and dues to him at:

Bob Dillon  
413 LeGrande Blvd.  
Aurora, IL 60506-5333.  
Phone 708-897-3341.

Dues?? Well, yes, we would like to keep the nest egg in good shape. Prior to this newsletter, it had \$804.00 in it, and we estimate it will cost around \$450 to send out this issue of KEY CLUCKS. It's going to around 400 people, so, gosh, if everybody just sent a buck, we'd be in good shape, but from past experience we know we're lucky to get half the members to send anything at all (are some CFOers cheap?), so we're going to ask for \$3.00 and see what happens. We greatly appreciate those of you who sent larger contributions after the last newsletter and if any of you are so inclined to do that this time, we won't complain. We are still maintaining the tradition of an extra two bucks as an initiation fee, so please tell any prospective members their initial dues will be \$5.00. Dues are not annual; they will be requested as needed in each newsletter, so once you've made a contribution, it's not necessary to send another one until you get another newsletter. Fair enough? OK, let's get to the good stuff!!!!

### CFO NEWS - by Kirby WS9D

W4GOG - Ray, recently underwent cataract surgery. Now he should be able to see those one-eyed jacks on the blackjack tables in Las Vegas. On June 6, the bug net was pleasantly surprised to hear W4GOG/MM from a tanker 20 miles NE of Cape Canaveral on his way home from Israel.

Welcome to new CFO member N4LET - Rene' from Mobile, AL. Rene' can be heard nightly on 40 meters after midnight central time.

W8MCP - Jesse, K8KEM - Dave, WA9TGT - Don and WC9R - Mike had an eyeball QSO at the Ft. Wayne Hamfest last November. Dave is presently sailing on a tanker between Japan and Borneo.

Have you guys noticed the RTTY, Amtor, Packet, etc. operations between 7025 and 7040 since the ARRL announced their proposal for digital operations between 7035 and 7050 khz? We had better use 40 meters on CW or lose it.

Have you noticed the strange noises coming from KB0PB, Frank's shack? He has been trying to use an electronic keyer and says that his old bug has become user-unfriendly. Some of the new breed of CW operators have asked Frank to switch to the keyboard. This makes his day.



We also heard that Frank was recently enjoying his new cranberry color car so much that he sucked up a patrol car into his tail pipe. The cop helped Frank celebrate his new car by issuing him a QSL citation.

Some CFO ops are trying to figure out how to get even with George N9EJS for giving a Bunnell sideswiper to Kris K9AMC.

One of the goals every CFO operator strives for is to have a smooth QSK with good keying. Along with that should be QNZ - zero beat your frequency with mine. Some guys call CQ with the narrow filters in their receiver and don't hear someone answering who is 300 hz or more off frequency.

AE8G reports there will be a Hi Speed CW Contest at the West Palm Beach Hamfest in October. Details are available from Ted (AE8G).

### ADDITIONAL NEWS - by Kris K9AMC

Did you hear:

F3NB Andy, a CFOer from France has been heard in the USA on 7035 around midnight. Those reporting QSOs with Andy are W9GA, KB0PB, and K8NFC.

KB0PB working W6WQV or WA7VSO on 40 meters?

N9HI George on 21.277 from Apache Junction, AZ?

W9NAX is known to be on 40 and 20.

Flash\* W4GOG/mm reports piracy on the high seas (China Sea). Pirates board ship at night and hold some crew members at knife point and robbed them of cash. W4GOG, sound sleeper that he is, finds out about it when it's all over. [Ed. note - that happened a while back, but since our last newsletter]

W4GOG plans second trip to Alaska. This time with a Camp Trailer and a Chevy Blazer (eat your heart out Michael Jordan). [UPDATE: At last report, Ray has changed his plans from Alaska to the U.S. southwest - Ed.]

K8KEM/mm is sailing back and forth between Japan and Borneo as a ship's radio op.

W4SON/9N (that's Nepal) has been mountain climbing there. He says it's Shangri-la. Has any other CFOer climbed Mt. Everest? Well, OK, Jack didn't actually make the summit, but he sure got closer than the rest of us!

N4VB has moved into an Old Timer's Home. Looks like Verle may be QRT for a long time. Hope not; new address: Verle Babcock, Windham Park, 2004 Max Luther Drive, Huntsville, AL 35810. Phone 205-852-0033.

KU2D is QRT for the time being. Hope Dan gets back on the air soon.

W2YS reports he has been QSOing W7QYA for many years QRQ on 20 meters.

N4WCO had to use large logs in the fire place. It got cold in them thar mountains of NC.

W2QJS loves Atlanta, but still loves the Syracuse Orangemen; he says he is also pulling for the Georgia Bull Dogs.

KB0PB reports former members of the Egyptian Radio Club (St Louis) area sked on 7210 at 9 AM.

Early Birds, W5GRJ, K5LGJ, W9FCX, KB9XE have been heard on 7033 at 4:30 A.M. Where is W9CQ? Hope you are OK now.

W0EG still has stock to make CFO badges.

W4LJH Fritz (Miami) is working on his QTH after storm damage from Hurricane Andrew.

W9JS is still making banjos at Oregon, WI. Rich still plays his banjo at shows.

HAM FESTS - Who eyeballed who:

W4GOG went to Augusta, GA hamfest and did not see any CFOers.

W9TO meet KB0PB at Centralia, IL fest. Hello Pat (W9TOXYL). Frank had chauffeur (daughter) drive him to the fest in the new Cranberry Ford.

N4EE attended the Rockhill fest in NC.

AK4G went to the Huntsville, AL fest. Wonder if W4ATE was there?

W4EEA went to Chattanooga, TN fest and seen ??? Well, maybe he seen all those bugs and straight keys on display by K4KP.

K8KEM, W8MCP, WC9R, WA9TGT - lots of eyeballs at Ft. Wayne, IN fest.

K9AMC saw WA9TGT at Muncie, IN fest.

W9WBL met W9TO at Indy fest. Stan had a guest - NG1V who stopped off with his personal Greyhound Bus at Stan's QTH. Bob had a little trouble with his diesel engine. Luckily, Stan's neighbor is a diesel mechanic. It was a hot day at Indy.

W9GA reports that the Milwaukee hamfest was very good and saw some of the CFOers there - N9EJS, W9FCX, and W9UB among them. Hey, Bill (KB9XE), be sure to double check the date of the fest next year. Bill says no one was at the fest the day he was there.

TECHNICAL:

W9GA and VE3PAZ both transmit cw from remote sites due to restrictions at their QTHs. We're waiting for the magazine article on the hows.



W9GA/R saw in QST Sept. '92, page 87 an article entitled "A debouncer for semi-automatic speed keys". Frank, whaddya' think, should we try one?

W9WBL Is your lever working? For those with old levers, non-working levers, for the older fellows, and for the younger fellows who want a sure thing lever, see Stan the lever man, W9WBL. He's got the right combo for less errors and sure fun using the W9WBL lever for keyers. He intends to be at several hamventions during '93.

W9JS (ex W9ARE) had an article in QST 1933 on dethumping the CW note. It was a filter put on the key. Anyone remember?

Omni-V has no RIT. Omni-VI has RIT.

AMTOR: K4CJX, W8MCP, and K8KEM/MM via K4CJX mailbox.

WG4T has a keyboard on his steering wheel for /m cw. Says he has had a strange stare or two from troopers driving by on the freeways.

K3KMO works /m from a motorcycle.

KEYERS: Gee gosh, lots of them military perf paper tapes and before WW2. Then the Ultimatic - another one was in CQ magazine, a 2 tube keyer. W9TO keyer, later the Horowitz touch type keyboard with a massive diode matrix. Few years later the W4UX board using RTL logic. Then the Woody board, and Hal Electronics from Urbana, IL was selling boards.

Talking about early keyers is history, so might as well get a little more history in here.

1933 - Chicago World's Fair. My gosh, that's 60 years ago, Amos(W9FB). Is there anyone left who attended the fair or QSOed W9USA in the transportation building? Local Chicago hams set up the station. Further reference QST 1933 and QST 1934. Darn thing went on for two years. Guess who took cw traffic from W9USA? Yup, it was W9LLN, now KB0PB.

Silent Keys: W9OB - Murl, W9SEM - Don, N9JM - Joe, WA9VVD - Ken, W1HRQ - Hank, W0ZR - Zeke, W9YPS - Frank, W9JMW - Wade, W8CJK - Ray, K1GGN - Art, W6UF - Bill.

New members since the last newsletter: WB4AQL, VE3PAZ, N5TC, KR0X, WC9R, N6SSQ, W8KJP, WA9TGT, N1MFW, W5APX, N4WCO, WB9CQX, N4LET, N6HJ, WZ0Z, W5BH.

### F.I. - A SAD STORY - by Mike WC9R

Those of you married to hams may not have as much trouble with F.I. as those of us who are the sole practitioner of Amateur Radio in the family.

What is F.I.? Well, it's worse than TVI, RFI, and irate neighbors all put together. It's the dreaded FAMILY INTERFERENCE.

Yeah, Family Interference. I'm sure a lot of you know what I mean. No one in the house has anything to say until you get on the air.

My daily routine is much the same as the rest of middle class America. I come home from work, kiss the kids and XYL, then settle down to watch the sports and weather before dinner (you can keep the rest of the news).

"How did your day go?" I politely ask each member of the family unit. Alas, it's always the same story. "Fine", they say glancing up from the TV.

Finally, dinner is ready. Again I try to spark conversation. "What's new?" Again I listen to a chorus of mumbled answers.

"OK" I say to myself. I've done my duty and the rest of the evening belongs to me.

Having wolfed down my dinner, I grab a cup of coffee and slowly (so as not to attract too much attention), I make my way to the shack, confident that in a few minutes the XYL will settle down to Knot's Landing and the kids will be upstairs fighting.

There! The radio is on and functioning properly (Thank God). I begin to search the band for some yet unworked jewel. The pan display quickly shows there aren't too many signals out there. The band is fading fast. Then in midst of the static I hear a faint but persistent CQ CQ CQ DX.

I reach up and swing the beam a few degrees to one side, and then the other, but his signal only gets weaker. Where on earth can this guy be? CQ CQ CQ DX I keep hearing. Finally, after what seems like hours I finally here DAH DIT DIT DIT. I strain to hear. "Wanna see what I bought your sister for next Christmas? It's really neat. I went to K-Mart, but they didn't have it. Then I went to Venture..." "Hey!" I implore, "Can't you see I'm on the air? I can hardly hear this guy and you're telling me about Christmas presents. Give me a break, will ya?" "Well, if you don't care, I don't. It's your sister ya know" she snaps back. "Yeah, yeah okay, I'll talk to you about it later." Exit the XYL. Now where did that guy go? Again I hear CQ CQ CQ DX, and on and on he goes.

DAH DIT DIT DIT crackles over the speaker. "Oh, I almost forgot." She's back again. "Hey, why don't you go get your ticket?" I say. "You almost know the code already. You've got the D and E down pat. Now get out of here, and leave me alone for awhile."

Now I wasn't born yesterday, and I know that she's out there lurking in the shadows just waiting to hear the next DE, but I'll take care of that. I reach up for my best F.I. eliminator - my 20 year old headset. It weighs about 30 pounds, and I need a neck brace when I put 'em on, but they stop all outside noise. Bombs can go off, the house could fall down and I'd never know it. Now it's just me and the radio. Let 'em come in here now, I don't care.

CQ CQ CQ DX DE 5X5FZ - UGANDA! I need this guy. I call, and he comes back... WC9R?? 599 BK. Pat, pat, pat. I feel little hands molesting my arm. I turn to see my nine year old daughter and pull off one side of the earphones. "Dad... I killed a kid at recess" she says. "How many times have I told you not to bother me when I'm on the radio unless it's really important. Now go away" I say as pleasantly as I can.



Back to Mr. Uganda I go. WC9R WC9R QSL? But again he sends WC9R?? "Gee guy, that's all there is." I'm going to have to get up to Radio Shack and exchange this call.

Pat, pat, pat. It's the XYL again. I know she's doing this on purpose (WC9R??). She probably spent the whole day planning this (WC9R??). "What now" I ask. "Did I mention that I wrecked the car and ran over your mother?" "Yeah, okay, fine. Now GOODBYE."

I go back to the Uganda dope again. WC9R WC9R...BK. Then I hear, QSL QSL WC9RBK 73 QRZ? and the pileup begins.

Oh well, I might as well go watch Knot's Landing too.

With the exception of a few obvious embellishments to statements attributed to my wife and daughter, and the actual call sign of the station involved, this is a true story.

I have yet to find the key to eliminating my Family Interference. My lawyer advises me that selling the family to white slavers is not a viable option, so the battle continues.

### REGARDING QSU - by Frank KB0PB

In the early wireless days, spark Tx and Rx equipment was so broad that any approximate tuning to wavelength was OK. Then CW brought better control, but you could call CQ at one end of the band and make contact over most or all of the band.

Developments gradually improved selectively until today we can QSO within a few cycles (Hz.) of other stations without interference.

Now two or more stations can occupy only one frequency while in QSO. Schedules and nets get together easily, copy is better, interference is less, and the band is less crowded.

Of course, the need for better frequency control increases if we are to take advantage of these benefits. Modern transceivers have "RIT" or "OFFSET" controls for fine tuning on reception without changing transmit frequency. Some also have features permitting easy adjustment of transmit and receive frequencies to be equal, but with separate control of audio tone on Rx to suit the operator.

Proper use of these features certainly improves the ability to make contact and to maintain it without interference. When three or more stations are in QSO on the exact frequency, the difference between casual and careful adjustment is tremendous.

The "Q" signal is QSU. It says (in short form) "send on this frequency". With a little practice and a little reading of the rig's instructions, it sure does make a pleasant difference.

QSU, OM?

# CFO ROOSTER 1993

Aug. 93

K 1AO	RON	26	KY	W 3DXK	HARRY	389	PA	N 4LET	RENE	952	AL
W 1AR	MURRAY	446	GA	KI3E	BILL	763	MD	W 4LG	LEO	380	VA
KO1C	BOB	820	NH	W 3HUV	RAY	329	MN	W 4LJH	FRITZ	135	FL
N 1EA	DAVID	864	MA	W 3JKX	EARLE	438	PA	N 4LPV	DAN	886	FL
WB1GLC	JOE	488	MA	K 3JWL	KEN	811	PA	W 4LZW	A.D	285	SC
W 1JY	JOHN	643	NH	W 3NNL	CLIFF	439	PA	WF4N	ROGER	955	KY
W 1LZL	BILL	818	MA	W 3NW	GEORGE	137	PA	N 4NCB	GEORGE	856	VA
N 1MFW	BOB	948	MA	KW3P	R.J.	871	PA	W 4NPX	BOB	903	VA
W 1OBJ	JIM	69	MA	W 3QBK	STAN	116	MD	N 4NT	MICHALE	866	TN
KA1PKG	BILL	908	MA	W 3RS	OLNEY	202	MD	WB4OSN	JOE	719	FL
KG1S	RON	915	MA	WA3TLF	WAYNE	245	PA	AA4PV	ED	442	AL
WA1SKQ	RICH	701	RI	W 3UW	JACK	561	PA	K 4PYM	GEORGE	311	GA
NG1V	BOB	890	MA	K 3WW	CHARLES	293	PA	N 4QB	JOE	374	AL
K 1VV	HAL	238	FL	N 3WW	WILLIAM	503	PA	WY4R	JIM	877	VA
K 1WGM	ROBERT	863	NH	NB3X	JOHN	593	PA	AB4RJ	ERNEST	931	KY
W 1ZL	NICK	910	MA	KB3ZM	PIERRE	930	MD	KZ4S	BOB	752	AL
N 1ZX	STANLEY	884	CN	N 4AE	ANDY	596	VA	WA4SNI	DICK	516	FL
WB2AGT	BOB	186	NY	AA4AJ	JIM	880	NC	W 4SON	JACK	59	NY
WD2AOQ	DIANE	370	NY	WB4AQL	MIKE	940	GA	WG4T	DAVE	767	VA
K 2AU	JOE	675	NY	W 4ATE	GENE	17	AL	K 4TE	DOC	369	AL
ND2B	FRANK	819	NY	W 4BCI	AL	471	VA	KA4TMI	PAUL	651	AL
W 2BBX	BOB	801	NY	KM4BI	RALPH	936	TN	N 4VB	VERLE	197	AL
K 2BV	BOB	52	NY	W 4BIF	ROYCE	556	FL	KF4VV	MARTY	811	AL
NU2C	IRA	911	NY	AA4BN	JIM	584	FL	KF4VY	MARTY	215	AL
N 2CPL	BOB	826	NY	W 4BQF	TOM	846	VA	N 4VZ	BOB	281	GA
N 2CPM	SAL	653	NY	AK4C	BILL	629	FL	NZ4W	WAYNE	435	TN
WA2CVV	LARRY	709	NJ	K 4CJX	STEVE	7	TN	N 4WCO	BOB	950	NC
KU2D	DAN	82	NY	W 4COC	TOM	798	NC	K 4WJR	DEL	912	SC
N 2DAN	DAM	839	NY	K 4CPB	LEE	822	SC	K 4WK	CHARLES	136	NC
W 2DX	JAY	771	NY	KM4CU	TOM	927	FL	AA4WT	MIKE	928	GA
W 2ECF	DON	542	NY	WC4D	O.B.	344	FL	W 4WU	MARVIN	325	AL
W 2EJE	BOB	192	NY	N 4EE	WELLS	821	SC	WB4ZSA	TOM	395	TN
N 2ESJ	PHIL	173	NJ	W 4EEA	JIM	575	TN	K 5ABA	CHARLES	906	LA
K 2EU	FRED	789	NY	K 4EF	EV	187	KY	W 5ACG	MARSH	30	TX
W 2FB	HOWARD	834	NY	N 4EGM	DUTCH	682	VA	KE5AL	JIM	885	TX
K 2FD	GEORGE	708	NJ	WA4EGQ	EDDIE	175	KY	W 5AMK	MERRILL	865	TX
W 2FET	AL	397	NY	KC4EJT	MIKE	929	TN	W 5APX	ART	949	TN
W 2GB	CURLEY	75	TN	N 4FG	FRED	265	VA	W 5BH	ED	956	TX
W 2HEN	STAN	657	NJ	W 4FOA	TONY	550	GA	K 5BK	GENE	483	TX
WB2IRB	BILL	76	NY	W 4FOK	JIM	431	FL	W 5BKK	KEN	847	TX
K 2KI	MARK	195	NY	K 4FW	AL	156	TN	K 5CPZ	CAROL	883	OK
W 2LYH	BOB	835	NY	AK4G	BERT	132	AL	W 5GRJ	JIMMY	452	LA
W 2OH	WALTER	222	NJ	WA4GAX	GERALD	841	TN	K 5HIB	KEN	843	TX
K 2ONP	DOC	473	NY	W 4GOG	RAY	120	GA	K 5HTF	BILL	909	OK
K 2PVB	JOE	366	NY	N 4HC	CHARLES	879	GA	K 5IRH	TOM	191	LA
W 2QJS	MEL	933	GA	K 4HDV	DAN	327	FL	W 5JNK	BERT	361	TX
W 2RYJ	TED	92	NY	W 4HIR	C.B.	614	VA	W 5JWL	JAY	876	AR
K 2SM	WARREN	80	NY	N 4HKS	BILL	855	TN	K 5KV	BENNY	656	TX
K 2TNO	BILL	748	TX	N 4HWQ	JIM	772	GA	K 5LGJ	TED	200	LA
K 2TO	DOC	234	NJ	N 4IBF	ROGER	823	TN	W 5LQ	JOE	122	LA
N 2UU	BOB	79	NJ	NM4J	FRANK	544	AL	KE5MI	RICH	938	TX
WA2VEZ	AL	104	NY	W 4JBQ	JOE	339	KY	W 5OTM	TOM	905	LA
W 2WWP	CLARK	858	NY	K 4JU	JACK	155	TN	AJ5P	LES	922	MS
W 2XS	JOHN	201	NY	K 4JVT	WALLY	476	NC	K 5PXM	RALPH	42	LA
W 2YS	RAY	174	NY	KC4K	DICK	773	FL	K 5PXM	RALPH	424	LA
W 2YW	JOHN	219	NY	KJ4KB	JOHN	872	CT	W 5RK	OZZIE	78	TX
W 3BF	BOB	444	PA	W 4KCM	PAUL	564	GA	N 5RP	BOB	887	TX
W 3BU	DAN	89	VA	K 4KP	HACK	934	TN	W 5SW	JACK	305	AR
W 3BWB	BOB	610	MD	N 4KQX	OTTIS	935	TN	N 5TC	TOM	942	TX
N 3CL	BILL	165	MD	W 4KSY	BEN	458	VA	WB5TKC	JAN	926	LA
K 3CQ	BILL	854	TN	AB4KX	BRYAN	850	TN	W 5UD	NICK	253	OK
KA3CTO	DICK	860	MD	W 4LDF	ED	228	VA	W 5UO	CHET	747	MS

W 5UXH	CHUCK	29	VA	W 8IO	BOB	287	OH	AK9O	RICH	808	IN
W 5WF	BILL	46	TX	WB8ITT	ED	85	MI	KK9R	DAN	475	IL
W 5WVY	BOB	560	TX	K 8KEM	DAVE	844	OH	NZ9R	KYLE	916	IN
WA5YFY	DUB	892	OK	W 8KJP	DEL	946	FL	WC9R	MIKE	944	IL
KA5YSW	JEREMY	895	AR	W 8KV	DAVE	267	OH	W 9RQO	JOE	134	IL
W 5ZR	BERT	411	LA	W 8LNJ	DAVE	840	TX	KC9T	CRAIG	413	IL
KB6ATA	BID	791	CA	W 8MCP	JESSE	939	MI	WA9TGT	DON	947	IN
WW6C	JERRY	484	CA	W 8MGF	ALAN	585	MA	W 9TO	JIM	1	IL
N 6DW	DAL	461	CA	W 8MZV	JACK	904	OH	W 9UB	CHUCK	99	WI
W 6HHW	PAUL	679	CA	W 8NPZ	BOB	889	WY	K 9VP	ROGER	918	IN
N 6HJ	HANK	953	AZ	K 8NTO	CLIFF	147	MI	W 9WBL	STAN	6	IN
W 6JK	HAL E.	842	CA	W 8OM	JOHN	717	OH	KC9X	MARK	894	IL
K 6JOQ	DICK	697	CA	WB8PAV	JOAN	891	PA	KB9XE	BILL	264	IL
W 6NKE	KEN	547	CA	W 8PBO	ART	256	WV	W 9YJI	ART	849	FL
W 6NKR	MARION	587	CA	W 8RH	GEORGE	19	FL	W 9ZGC	AL	33	IN
K 6NQ	JIM	618	WA	W 8ROV	BILL	687	MI	K 9ZTK	CAL	42	IL
KA6NSF	BILL	654	CA	W 8SJO	BARRY	673	FL	N 9ZZ	BOB	64	WI
W 6NVN	GEORGE	758	AZ	W 8SWL	FRED	235	WV	KG0A	DEAN	480	PA
W 6OV	DICK	190	ID	W 8SZ	SAM	391	OH	KB0B	CLARK	825	NE
W 6OWF	JACK	521	TX	W 8TM	PAUL	460	IL	N 0BIH	CHARLES	409	MN
WA6QOX	JIM	921	CA	W 8TP	TED	273	OH	W 0BIL	BILL	899	CO
K 6QXF	BILL	536	WA	WA8UQX	HARRY	456	WV	K 0BXJ	GENE	335	KS
W 6SB	ERN	206	CA	WB8WTS	JIM	917	OH	K 0CDJ	BILL	196	MN
W 6SBE	DAN	371	CA	K 8ZBN	STEVE	779	OH	N 0CIB	LARRY	881	MN
W 6SE	JOHN	722	CA	W 8ZJE	VINCE	12	MI	W 0EG	GEORGE	10	MN
N 6SL	BEN	441	MS	W 8ZN	BILL	827	MI	W 0EPV	ED	280	KS
N 6SSQ	TOM	945	WA	N 9AEO	JERRY	271	IL	K 0ERX	BILL	451	NE
W 6TZK	TED	310	CA	W 9ALM	BILL	745	IN	ND0F	JIM	851	MO
W 6WQV	BOB	28	CA	K 9AMC	KRIS	41	IL	W 0GHX	RAY	703	MN
W 6WU	KEN	16	CA	WB9AOX	JOHN	146	IL	K 0GOO	FRANK	630	MO
W 6XF	8OM	920	CA	N 9BZZ	HANK	896	IN	K 0GVK	JOHN	208	IA
N 7ASZ	MIKE	88	WA	W 9CQ	PAUL	66	IN	KE0H	JOHN	301	MA
KV7B	DAN	425	AZ	WB9CQX	WOODY	951	AZ	WB0HBS	GLEN	635	CO
KN7B	PAT	537	AZ	WS9D	KIRBY	925	IL	W 0HKF	BOB	459	MN
N 7CL	ERIC	868	AZ	W 9DB	DAN	870	WI	K 0HQE	BILL	882	IA
W 7DUV	CLIFF	558	WA	KA9DYS	ERO	867	IL	W 0HS	AUGIE	545	KS
W 7ENS	SCRUB	576	NV	KK9E	NED	22	WI	W 0JN	JIM	131	WA
W 7FJ	ART	455	WA	N 9EJS	GEORGE	861	IL	WA0KZL	TEX	61	IA
W 7JVI	CATHY	901	WA	W 9EOP	JOHN	809	AZ	KO0L	JOE	937	AR
W 7KP	HAL	543	NV	W 9ERW	ROGER	43	MO	W 0LL	PAT	862	MO
KG7KR	STAN	898	ID	W 9FAM	VERN	72	IN	W 0LYM	SID	875	TN
KY7M	LEE	479	AZ	W 9FB	AMOS	55	IN	W 0MHS	DAVE	832	GA
W 7OOF	TOM	857	CA	W 9FCX	LYLE	874	IL	W 0NGW	BILL	181	KS
WW7P	JOHN	780	AZ	W 9FR	NOEL	398	IN	W 0OMC	VERN	428	MN
W 7QYA	FLO	181	MT	W 9GA	IRV	338	WI	KB0PB	FRANK	450	MO
K 7UQH	KEMP	229	WA	W 9GJ	MORT	24	IN	K 0PFX	MEL	23	MO
WA7VHO	DON	189	ID	N 9HI	GEORGE	40	IN	W 0PM	DAVE	121	MO
WB7VKI	JERRY	760	WA	W 9HI	STU	4	WI	W 0RAN	NORM	611	MN
WA7WFB	BUZZ	913	AZ	KK9I	BOB	566	IN	W 0RGS	JEAN	326	MO
W 7WXW	CAL	753	WA	WB9IHH	JIM	812	CT	W 0ROF	TROY	472	MO
W 7ZMD	NICK	685	AZ	KJ9J	NEWT	774	IN	W 0RSW	FRED	223	LA
W 8AU	PERRY	107	OH	WD9JLE	DAVE	319	IL	W 0TKD	FRANK	707	MO
WA8CDM	PAUL	907	MI	K 9JRE	BILL	803	IN	W 0TQ	WENDELL	493	KS
N 8CRF	MIKE	902	OH	W 9JS	RICH	580	WI	W 0UCE	JACK	833	NC
KM8D	GEORGE	813	MI	W 9KF	CURLEY	126	IL	W 0WB	JOHN	859	MN
W 8DFI	DAVE	210	MI	W 9KT	MARV	283	IN	KO0X	DON	746	IA
K 8DMU	REEVA	291	AZ	W 9KX	DEAN	59	IN	KR0X	GENE	943	KY
W 8EGB	CLYDE	686	MI	K 9KY	LLOYD	954	IN	WZ0Z	WAYNE	957	NE
K 8ENS	TOM	430	MI	W 9KZZ	AL	8	WI	W 0ZM	ART	897	MN
KG8F	DOUG	766	MI	WA9LGC	TRUMAN	282	IN	N 0ZO	PAT	680	KY
NZ8F	HARRY	924	MI	W 9LOH	PADDY	932	IL	W 0ZO	TONY	923	NC
K 8FD	STEVE	714	IA	WB9LTN	BOB	39	IL	VE3MFN	RICHARD	888	ON
W 8FEC	ART	368	OH	W 9MCJ	ART	893	IN	VE3PAZ	LARRY	941	ON
AE8G	TED	531	FL	W 9MFY	JIM	474	IL	ZL1AN	GARY	671	
W 8GJX	HELEN	900	MI	W 9NAX	DOUG	9	OR				
K 8HFL	TOM	44	OH	W 9NN	BOB	621	WI				



## BELL LAB PROVES EXISTENCE OF DARK SUCKERS!

For years it has been believed that electric bulbs emitted light. However, recent information from Bell Labs has proven otherwise. Electric bulbs don't emit light; they suck dark. Thus they now call these bulbs dark suckers. The dark sucker theory, according to a spokesman from the Labs, proves the existence of dark, that dark has mass heavier than that of light, and that dark is faster than light.

The basis of the dark sucker theory is that electric bulbs suck dark. Take for example the dark suckers in the room where you are. There is less dark right next to them than there is elsewhere. The larger the dark sucker, the greater its capacity to suck dark. Dark suckers in a parking lot have a much greater capacity than the ones in this room.

As with all things, dark suckers don't last forever. Once they are full of dark, they can no longer suck. This is proven by the black spot on a full dark sucker. A new candle has a white wick. You will notice that after the first use, the wick turns black, representing all the dark which has been sucked into it. If you hold a pencil next to the wick of an operating candle, the tip will turn black because it got in the path of the dark flowing into the candle. Unfortunately, these primitive dark suckers have a very limited range.

There are also portable dark suckers. The bulbs in these can't handle all of the dark by themselves, and must be aided by a dark storage unit. When the dark storage unit is full, it must be either emptied or replaced before the portable dark sucker can operate again.

Dark has mass. When dark goes into a dark sucker, friction from this mass generates heat. Thus it is not wise to touch an operating dark sucker. Candles present a special problem, as the dark must travel in the solid wick instead of through glass. This generates a great amount of heat. Thus it can be very dangerous to touch an operating candle.

Dark is also heavier than light. If you swim deeper and deeper, you notice it gets darker and darker. When you reach a depth of approximately fifty feet, you are in total darkness. This is because the heavier dark sinks to the bottom of the lake and the lighter light floats to the top.

The immense power of dark can be utilized to man's advantage. We can collect the dark that has settled to the bottom of lakes and push it through turbines, which generates electricity and helps push it to the ocean where it may be safely stored. Prior to turbines, it was much more difficult to get dark from rivers and lakes to the ocean. The Indians recognized this problem and tried to solve it. When on a river in a canoe traveling in the same direction as the flow of dark, they paddled slowly, so as not to stop the flow of dark, but when they traveled against the flow of dark, they paddled quickly so as to help push the dark along its way.

Finally, we must prove that dark is faster than light. If you stand in an illuminated room in front of a closed, dark closet, then slowly open the door, you would see the light slowly enter the closet, but since the dark is so fast, you would not be able to see the dark leave the closet.

In conclusion, Bell Labs stated that dark suckers make all our lives much easier. So the next time you look at an electric light bulb, remember that it is indeed a dark sucker.

## FIRST CHICAGO AREA CLUCK-IN - by George N9EJS

Fifteen CFOers and 8 CFO-XYLs attended the first Cluck-In held in the Chicago area on the weekend of September 20-22, 1991 at the Oakbrook Terrace, IL Marriott Court Yard Inn. The first arrival was Wells (N4EE) from Summerville, SC on Thursday, Sept 19. While the chickens were out feeding on Friday evening, Perry (W8AU) stopped by to find the coop unattended. Perry left a copy of the Indy 1988 Cluck-In video tape, but could not stay. Thanks very much Perry. Everyone enjoyed looking at the tape.

By Saturday, Wells (N4EE), Verle (N4VB), Kris/Fran (K9AMC), George/Ruby (N9EJS), Rich (VE3MFN), Larry (VE3PAZ), Ray (W4GOG), Jesse/Brenda (W8MCP), Lyle/Helen (W9FCX), Curley/Jean (W9KF), Marv/Jody (W9KT), Bob/Char (WB9LTN), Kirby/Susie (WS9D/W9JTH), and Bill (KB9XE) had arrived.

Kris parked his car outside the coop in the chicken yard and ran coax to his mobile antenna, and we ran the Saturday A.M. yodel net. Bob took several on a trip to FermiLab in nearby Batavia, IL on Saturday afternoon, while George guarded the coop. Char took the ladies on a shopping trip to Long Grove.

Larry drove up to the Grayslake, IL hamfest Saturday morning looking for Irv (W9GA), but they missed each other.

George brought an enlarged floor model straight key, and everyone tried their efficiency at sending with their left foot. Appropriate QLF award certificates (ala Kris/Fran) were presented.

We were especially honored by the presence of Larry and Rich from Ontario, Canada.

After a great day of visiting, a banquet was held at the Flame Restaurant in Villa Park, IL. Our world traveler Ray related some of his exciting experiences as Chief Radio Officer on ocean oil tankers.

The highlight of the evening was the introduction of Kris' now FAMOUS Chicken-Clucker machines. Pandemonium reigned when everyone present became quickly qualified on the operation of the machines. Jesse was declared the undisputed winner of the clucking test. The restaurant manager was called in to witness the fun, and when he heard all the clucking, he thought it was a protest against the food!

Appropriate certificates of attendance were presented to each member.

(Some additional comments by WB9LTN) - The "What, you again?" awards went to Curly and Verle for not missing a single CFO cluck-in; quite an accomplishment. I've taken my clucker to a couple restaurants, asked the waitress if their chicken was really fresh, and as she walked away started "clucking." So far, none of them have given me a black eye. One took it to the kitchen and scared the daylights out of the cook. One additional highlight of the banquet was George's "crazy chicken", but that's totally indescribable. Ya' just hadda' be there!



## 1991 Chicago Cluck-In



QLF key  
(operated by  
VE3MFN)



Back row: Brenda, Char, Sue, Jody, Helen  
Seated: Ruby, Jean, Fran



Shirt made by Fran  
for K9AMC



Back row: N9EJS, N4EE, VE3PAZ, W9KT, WS9D, VE3MFN  
Middle row: K9AMC, W9FCX, W8MCP, W9KF  
Seated: W4GOG, N4VB, WB9LTN



FOLLOWING WAS COPIED BY T R MCELROY AT RCA EXHIBIT, WORLDS  
FAIR CHICAGO 1933, SPEED CERTIFIED BY TAYLOR AND BORSODY AT  
76 WPM, MCKESSY PUNCHING.

T R MCELROY

WORLD'S CHAMPION

Certified true & correct: B. Frank Borsody, <sup>Commun's' Exhibit</sup> Manager RCA, Chicago, <sup>World's Fair 1933</sup>

EXTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT WORK ON TRANSMITTING TUBES FINALLY  
PRODUCED RELIABLE GENERATORS OF A FREQUENCY RANGE  
CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN POSSIBLE WITH THE ALTERNATORS  
WHICH HAD BY THAT TIME BECOME THE FOUNDATION OF  
TRANSOCEANIC RADIO COMMUNICATIONS THE EFFICIENT TUBE  
TRANSMITTERS OPENED UP A NEW BAND OF WAVE LENGTHS WHICH  
HAD CHARACTERISTICS OF GREAT PROMISE THEY WERE BUT  
LITTLE AFFECTED BY STATIC DISTURBANCES COULD BE  
OPERATED AT HIGH SPEEDS AND HAD THE GREAT ADVANTAGE  
THAT THE PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE ANTENNA STRUCTURES  
WERE SMALLER THUS PERMITTING SCHEMES TO BE UTILIZED  
TO REFLECT THE ENERGY AND CONCENTRATE IT INTO DIRECTED  
PATHS THE EARLY WORK ALONG THESE LINES WAS DONE BY  
MARCONI BUT MANY IMPROVEMENTS AND INNOVATIONS WERE  
WORKED OUT AND APPLIED BY THE ENGINEERS OF THE R C A  
COMMUNICATIONS INC AND OF THE BELL LABORATORIES ONE  
SERIOUS DRAWBACK SIGNAL FADING RETARDED THE UNIVERSAL  
USE OF THE SHORT WAVE CONVERTER BUT WAS PRACTICALLY  
OVERCOME BY THE INGENIOUS USE OF THE DIVERSITY SYSTEM  
OF RECEIVING IN WHICH THE ENERGY FROM THREE WIDELY



### CW PET PEEVES - by Kirby WS9D

1. The guy who comes back to a 35 wpm CQ with a 10 wpm answer.
2. The guy using a bug or paddle that runs everything together, drops or adds dits to a letter, abbreviates every other word with non-standard abbreviations in order to speed up his transmissions, then doodles with the key while he is thinking of something else to say. Things like .. .., ...-., -..-., and ends up saying in clear text "now over to you for your final," instead of using BK or K.
3. The guy who is using a keyboard who keeps loading up his buffer and is so enthralled with his ability to type well that he makes a 10 minute transmission with no breaks, and has no QSK.
4. The guy who sends 30 CQ's in a row before giving his call.
5. The guy who gives you a 599 report, then asks, "What did you say your name and QTH are?"
6. The guy who sits right on top of you and asks "QRL?", ignores your reply, and starts calling CQ or his buddy "on schedule".

---

### CW FOREVER

You must have, at times, thought into the past,  
Where some things go out, while others last,  
What comes to my mind is the Old Morse Code,  
That has weathered the storms from any abode.

To talk with one's fingers is surely an art,  
Of any info you care to impart,  
In most conditions the signals get thru,  
While the same about phone is simply not true.

Those dits and dahs cut through the trash,  
Of nearby noise or lightning's crash,  
To the sensitive ears of the ham receiver,  
Who records this data with ardent fever.

He knows he's doing something unique,  
(in such poor conditions, that's quite a feat!)  
To roger the message that came off the air,  
These brass pounders sure do have that flair.

They say Morse ops are a dying breed,  
But don't despair, there's always that need,  
That when conditions get rough for the new automation,  
Be rest assured, there'll be need for your station.

CW is dying? Believe it never,  
This mode will be 'round forever and ever,  
But one thing is sure, what we really need,  
Is to relay our knowledge to the younger breed.

To carry the torch, long after we're gone,  
To send Morse Code thru the air like a song.  
When at last, Silent Keys pull that final lever,  
We can rest in peace, it's CW forever.

Jim Hatherley, WA1TBY 7/4/85  
Sent to WS9D by VE3ZBB

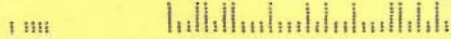
---

Well, that's all the room we got. 73, and see you next issue. DitDitDit DahDiDah!

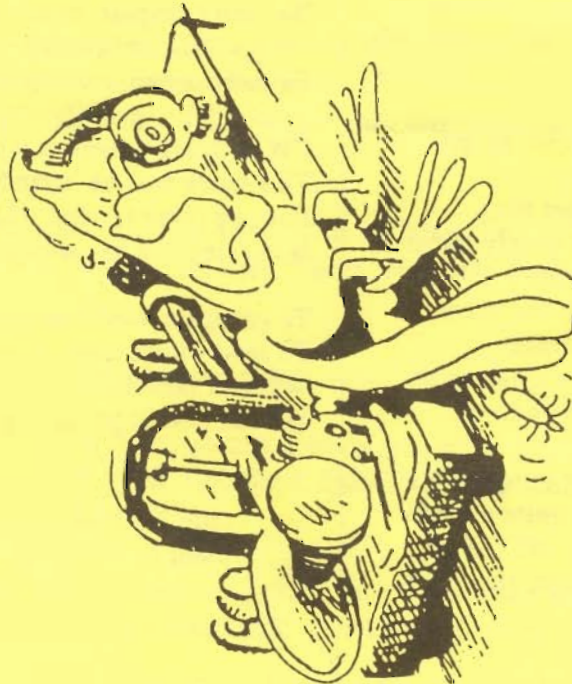
413 LeGrande Blvd.  
Aurora, IL 60506-5333



TONY MARTIN W4FOA  
926 GARDEN SRT.  
ROSEVILLE, GA 30741



Key Clucks



Summer 1993

Unofficial Journal of CFO